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Anthropology and Dawkin's Early Man in Britain, and the late Mr. L. H. Morgan's writings on the North American Indians.

UNDERWOOD'S FERNS.¹—Last year the first edition of this book was noticed in the NATURALIST. It is with great pleasure that we welcome the new and much enlarged edition which has just come to hand. It has been carefully revised and much new matter has been added. As now published it includes the whole of the Pteridophyta, that is, the so-called vascular cryptogams. Many new paragraphs and a chapter or two are added to the text, and considerable changes and additions have been made in the systematic portion. On pp. 34 and 35 the asexual and sexual generations are respectively called the *Pteridoid* and the *Thalloid* phases, two most excellent expressions, which ought to be introduced into usage in the books. On p. 53, in giving the names of the seven divisions or sub-kingdoms of the vegetable kingdom, the author, for the sake of uniformity, writes *Zygospora*, *Oospore*, *Carpospore*, instead of *Zygosporeæ*, *Oosporeæ*, *Carposporeæ*, which is an attempt in the right direction. The literature of the Pteridophyta is greatly extended, and appears to be pretty full. It is certainly a very valuable part of the book, as it includes, in the case of American works, not only the books, but many papers in periodicals, reports, etc.

The arrangement of the orders of Pteridophytes followed, is as follows:

- Class I.—EQUISETINÆ. Orders Calamariaceæ and Equisetaceæ.
- “ II.—FILICINÆ. Orders Ophioglossaceæ, Marattiaceæ and Filices.
- “ III.—RHIZOCARPEÆ. Orders Marsiliaceæ and Salviniaceæ.
- “ IV.—LYCOPODINÆ. Orders Lycopodiaceæ, Lepidodendraceæ, Sigillariaceæ, Selaginellaceæ and Isoetaceæ.

The important announcement is made, at the end of the volume, that the author has under preparation a Synopsis of the Hepaticæ on a plan similar to the work under review. We hope that its appearance will not be long delayed, and trust that it will prove to be as valuable a hand-book as has “Our Native Ferns.”—C. E. B.

STUDIES FROM THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.—The second number of the second volume of this valuable series is fully equal in interest to those which have preceded it. While it contains some medico-biological and physiological papers, the purely zoölogical ones are the following: List of Medusæ found at Beaufort, N. C., during the summers of 1880 and 1881, and a paper on the development of the ova in *Salpa*, by W. K. Brooks; On the origin of the so-called “test cells” in the ascidian ovum, by J. McMarrich; Some notes on the development of *Arbacia punctulata*, by H. Garman and B. P.

¹*Our Native Ferns and their Allies, with synoptical descriptions of the American Pteridophyta north of Mexico.* A second and enlarged edition of *Our Native Ferns and How to Study Them.* By LUCIEN M. UNDERWOOD, Ph.D., professor of geology and botany in the Illinois Wesleyan University. Bloomington, Ill., 1882.